



Joint News Release

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Snake River Basin Adjudication District Court



1301 N. Orchard St.
Boise, ID 83706
(208) 327-7900

253 3rd Avenue North
Twin Falls, ID 83303
(208) 736-3011

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SRBA COURT TO CONVENE
SPECIAL SESSION MAR. 19 IN SALMON

For Immediate Release
Boise-Twin Falls, Idaho, March 8, 2002

For Media Information Contact
Diana Delaney- (208) 736-3011

Idahoans with claims in the Snake River Basin Adjudication from the Lemhi River basin area will have a unique chance to learn about the SRBA and see first-hand the SRBA Court in action on March 19 when Judge Roger Burdick convenes an official public session of the court in Salmon, the Court and the Idaho Department of Water Resources announced jointly today.

The SRBA Court session will be held at the Lemhi County Commissioners Annex, 210 Neyman St., in Salmon. The program starts at 10:00 a.m. when IDWR hosts a special SRBA information session on the status of the SRBA .

The presentation includes information about SRBA field examination work that will begin this summer in the Lemhi River basin, also known as IDWR Basin 74. It will also provide information about the adjudication process and the time line for claims with places of use in the basin. SRBA Court representatives will also be on hand to answer questions.

In the afternoon, Judge Burdick will convene the SRBA Court at 1:30 for its regular monthly status conference. The status conference is when the Court deals with a variety of legal elements in the SRBA Court proceedings.

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"This is an excellent chance for people in the Salmon area to see the Court in action and to learn first hand more about the process. The decisions that will come out of this adjudication process will have far reaching effects on thousands of water users. I feel it is important that they have the opportunity to see the process first hand," Judge Burdick said.

The SRBA was launched in 1987 to sort out claims to water in the Snake River Basin, a geographical area encompassing approximately 87 percent of the state. Recommendations now have been prepared on more than 75 percent of all claims filed in the SRBA.

"It's important for people with SRBA claims in the Lemhi River Basin to learn more about the procedure and to get a better understanding of just how their claims will be processed. They also have the chance to review the technology involved, to learn about the overall status of the adjudication and to see the timelines we will be following," said Dave Tuthill, SRBA manager for IDWR.

The court session and the IDWR program will be conducted in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in or understand any of the proceedings, please let the Court Clerk, Diana Delaney, know in advance so arrangements can be made. Her telephone number is (208) 736-3011.